



#22(Amd+ PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

UNO et al.

Examiner:

M. ANGEBRANNDT

Serial No.:

09/390,228

Group Art Unit:

1756

Filed:

SEPTEMBER 3, 1999

Docket No.:

10873.274USI1

Title:

OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, PRODUCING

METHOD THEREOF AND METHOD OF RECORDING/ERASING/

REPRODUCING INFORMATION

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 6, 2003, Applicants provide the following amendments and remarks.

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 70, line 28 and ending on page 71, line 8 with the following new paragraph.

-When forming the diffusion preventing layers 67 and 68, there was no difference between samples 100 to 109 as to the sputtering gas, which was a mixed gas comprising Ar and nitrogen, a sputtering gas pressure of 10 mTorr, and a sputtering power density of 6.37 W/cm². When forming the diffusion preventing layer 67, the partial pressure of nitrogen in the sputtering gas was constantly 40 % (40 vol % nitrogen). When forming the diffusion preventing layer 68, the partial pressure of nitrogen in the sputtering gas was changed to 10%, 20%, 30% and 40%. In this case, the content of nitrogen contained in the diffusion preventing layer 67 was 56 atom %

